

My Messianic Testimony



I was born in Haifa, Israel, and moved to New York City at the age of three, when my family immigrated to the United States. I grew up in a reformed Jewish home, observing the Jewish Feasts occasionally, but not faithfully. Through my encounter with mentors from Waco, Texas—I began to read the Bible and attend church services.

I came to understand that the Bible consisted of the Old Testament—a picture book prophesying and foreshadowing a Jewish Messiah. I also came to understand that during Old Testament times God's people would come to the tabernacle area with a spotless, pure sacrifice onto which the sins of the individual making the sacrifice would be symbolically placed. The people met with a priest because individuals could not atone for sins and have fellowship with God directly. These sacrifices were repeatedly made to atone for sin, and restore the one making the sacrifice into right fellowship with God—until the next sin. It was never-ending. I read how God longed for all people to humble themselves and confess their sin, and come back to Him through the required and appropriate sacrifices. God, throughout the Old Testament, was planning to introduce a better and final sacrifice. The Jews knew this person of promise as "Messiah." Whoever eventually came claiming to be the foreshadowed Messiah would have to be right one-hundred percent in regard to all Old Testament prophecy. I was fascinated with the prophetic descriptions of where the Messiah would be born, live, how and why He would have to die.

So, after reading the Bible and New Testament all day, every day, for about three weeks, I made a monumental decision to embrace the New Testament's and rose from the dead on the third day. My eyes were finally opened—Jesus Christ was the fulfillment of all of the Old Testament prophecies and all things Jewish. I concluded that Jesus Christ was who He said He was—"God—the Messiah."

Alternative

I was born in Haifa, Israel, and moved to New York City at the age of three, when my family immigrated to the United States. I grew up in a reformed Jewish home, observing some of the Jewish holidays but not faithfully.

At the age of nineteen, I was impacted by two men, Paul J. Meyer and Gary O'Malley (both from Waco, Texas). They so impressed me that I said to myself, "Whatever these guys have, I want it, too!" Their impact led me to begin reading a Bible that Gary suggested I purchase. I also began attending church services—a monumental occurrence. After all, I had made a solemn vow, at the age of fifteen, to—never—set foot inside of a church. As I read the Bible, I came to understand that God's people (the Jews) would often go to the Temple, or "Tabernacle" to receive forgiveness or "atonement" from God for their sins. They brought with them spotless animals and were met by "priests" because individuals could not atone for their sins directly. At the Tabernacle, the Jews would humble themselves, confess their sins and sacrifice the spotless animals. This sacrificial process or system was never-ending. I also read about a promise God-Himself made—to provide a "once and for all" sacrifice. The Jews knew this person of "promise"—as Messiah.

So, after reading the Bible all day, every day, for about three weeks, my eyes were finally opened. I believed the Bible. I trusted in the Gospel—Jesus Christ IS the one who died as a substitute for my sins and rose from the dead on the third day. Jesus Christ IS the "Once and for ALL Sacrifice." Jesus Christ IS the Jewish Messiah.

Do you have a testimony? If you're a believer in Jesus Christ then you have one, too. But have you written your testimony out? If not, let me encourage you to do so. It WILL help you in so many ways...

Do you have questions about Jesus Christ, the Bible, or Christianity? Maybe you have questions about something else? If so, I'd love the opportunity to dialogue with you. Contact me at MAttar@GoodMoodFoundation.org.